

the action date object having an associated date property that specifies a point in time;

the action object having an associated task method;

associating an instance of the action object with an instance of the action date object, wherein the association of a component with another component includes making the component aware of the other component such that the component can access certain of the properties, methods or events associated with the other component;

configuring the action object to perform a specific task method;

providing a graphical user interface having:

a graphic representation of the action date object; and

a graphic representation of the action object;

generating an instance of the action date object when the graphic representation of the action date object is selected, the instance of the action date object having a corresponding graphic representation of the instance of the action date object displayed in the graphical user interface;

generating an instance of the action object when the graphic representation of the action object is selected, the instance of the action object having a corresponding graphic representation of the instance of the action object displayed in the graphical user interface;

assembling a bolt that graphically represents the automated task list by associating the graphic representation of the instance of the action object with the graphic representation of the instance of the action date object by way of the graphical user interface; and

storing information pertaining to associated instances of the object model objects as an automated task list.

11. (Amended) A method for programming automated task lists to be performed by a computer system, comprising:

- providing an object model, including an action date object, an action list object and an action object;
- the action date object having an associated date property that specifies a point in time;
- the action object having an associated task method;
- associating an instance of the action list object with an instance of the action date object;
- associating an instance of the action object with the instance of the action list object, thereby associating the instance of the action object with the instance of the action date object through the instance of the action list object;
- configuring the action object to perform a specific task method;
- storing information pertaining to associated instances of the object model objects as an automated task list; and
- wherein the association of a component with another component includes making the component aware of the other component such that the component can access certain of the properties, methods or events associated with the other component.

12. (Amended) The method of Claim 11, further comprising:

- providing a graphical user interface having:
  - a graphic representation of the action date object;
  - a graphic representation of the action list object;
  - a graphic representation of the action object; and
- generating an instance of the action date object when the graphic representation of the action date object is selected, the instance of the action date object having a